



[4830-01-p]

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

**Proposed Extension of Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment;
Comment Request for Disclosure of Returns and Return Information to Designee of
Taxpayer**

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Internal Revenue Service, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning the disclosure of returns and return information to a designee of a taxpayer.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THIS DOCUMENT IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]** to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Carolyn Brown, Internal Revenue Service, Room 6236, 1111 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20224. Requests for additional information or copies of the regulations should be directed to R. Joseph Durbala, at Internal Revenue Service, Room 6129, 1111 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington DC 20224, or through the internet, at RJoseph.Durbala@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Disclosure of Returns and Return Information to Designee of Taxpayer.

OMB Number: 1545-1816.

Regulation Project Number: TD 9054, as amended by TD 9618.

Abstract: Under section 6103(a), returns and return information are confidential unless disclosure is otherwise authorized by the Code. Section 6103(c), as amended in 1996 by section 1207 of the Taxpayer Bill of Rights II, Public Law 104-168 (110 Stat. 1452), authorizes the IRS to disclose returns and return information to such person or persons as the taxpayer may designate in a request for or consent to disclosure, or to any other person at the taxpayer's request to the extent necessary to comply with a request for information or assistance made by the taxpayer to such other person. Disclosure is permitted subject to such requirements and conditions as may be prescribed by regulations. With the amendment in 1996, Congress eliminated the longstanding requirement that disclosures to designees of the taxpayer must be pursuant to the written request or consent of the taxpayer.

Current Actions: There is no change to the burden previously approved.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, business or other not-for-profit institutions, farms, and Federal, state, local or tribal governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 4,000

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 12 min.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 800

The following paragraph applies to all the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number.

Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained if their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Desired Focus of Comments: The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is particularly interested in

comments that:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including using appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., by permitting electronic submissions of responses.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the ICR for OMB approval of the extension of the information collection; they will also become a matter of public record.

Approved: November 27, 2018.

R. Joseph Durbala,

IRS Tax Analyst.

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